

# THE RURAL CASKET.

VOL. I.]

TUESDAY, August 14, 1798.

[No. 11.]

ORIGINAL.

FOR THE RURAL CASKET.

ON THE MANAGEMENT OF CHILDREN.

*“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

IT is a most fatal mistake, which many parents are in with respect to the important business of forming the moral character of their children, that the faults of children are of little consequence. Yet it is the very same disposition, which makes a child or youth passionate, false, or revengeful, and which in the men produce murder, perjury, and all the most atrocious crimes. The very same turn of mind which puts a child upon beating his play-fellows with his little harmless hand, will afterwards if not corrected arm him with a sword to execute his vengeance. How then can parents be so careless and unthinking as to connive at, much less encourage a wrong turn of mind in their children, at the time they should do their utmost to rectify any blemish in a feature or limb, as knowing it will else be quickly incurable? they allow the mind to run into vice and disorder which they know will be soon irretrievable. If your child threatened to grow crook-

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ed or deformed; if he were dwarfish and stunted; if he were weak in one or more of his limbs; or did not look with both eyes alike; would you not give any thing in the world to have such infirmity strengthened, or wrong cast of features redressed? Would you put off endeavouring its cure for one day after you had discovered the defect? And will you trifle with a deformity of infinitely greater consequence, a blemish in the mind? Perhaps you wish your child to get a good education, but what steps do you take to effect your wish? Will he get a genteel education strolling about the streets and highways one half of his time, in play or mischief, which wholly takes off his mind from his book, when he happens to be at school? To day he wishes to attend school, you allow him to act his pleasure; to-morrow he cries to stay at home, you can deny him nothing, be it ever so hurtful to his morals or health; and so you foolishly humor him, and the only proper time

time for educating your child is irretrievably misimproved, and lost. I have heard of a parent that humoured her child to that degree, that she ordered her nursing maid to take care that her little girl should not see the moon lest she should cry after it.

I appeal to every parent whether this is not training up a child in a dismal and dangerous way from which be assured he will not depart when old. Ye that are parents and guardians pray consider of these things.

Adieu.

### FOR THE RURAL CASKET.

#### TAKE CARE.

**I**T is not always true honesty, when we may in our dealing steer clear of the censure of the Laws of our Legislature, or of Magnacharta---No, we have that noble principle implanted in our own breasts, which is, and will remain to be the royal standard of legal procedure, between a man and his Brother; if one by the riches flowing from the magazine of nature, is furnished with a capacity for trade or business above another, he may exercise his faculty in an honest and fair way of dealing, and altho' he may not accumulate wealth with such velocity, yet what is got in this way will bring with it that satisfaction and

peace which will glow in his countenance, increase his confidence, and expand his heart in the love of Virtue, and so far ally him to the general good of society that he can truly rejoice in the prosperity of his neighbour (in every sense of the word) and must naturally feel with those in an adverse situation, and here, by degrees he will rise to that state, and fill up that allotment in life for which he was destined, when he was furnished with talents above the brute.

To live, and let live, a maxim good,  
Success from this is sure;  
And heaven decrees that all things  
should,  
Be moderate for the poor.

### SELECTED.

#### CHARACTER OF A WIFE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

**S**OME very wise men have doubted whether--no--I beg their pardon--very wise men, in our days, are averse to the slow

process of doubting---and therefore find it easier to *assert*--that all our vices are the excesses of some virtue; though, I believe, they



they have not gone so far as to offer the converse of this proposition, and maintain, that all our virtues must be the superfluous part of our vices. Whether they are right in establishing this barter, is not for me to determine; but I cannot help being somewhat inclined to think, that very good sort of people have strange whims and habits, which, though it would neither be polite nor just to call vices, yet must be accounted very troublesome and inconvenient things. Such is the case, perhaps, with your outrageously virtuous people, in whose opinion, a smile is a criminal overture, and the touch of a finger, an impulse of Satan---or with your violently sentimental people, who exult in the prospect of a long dreary aisle, terminated by a dungeon, who converse in sobs and shrieks; and whose daily bread is a kind of fermentation, excited by the clanking of chains, and the report of pistols. But let me not wander from my intended subject. Let me not plunge into the abyss of romance, when I ought to relate a plain tale, nor wander abroad in the search of terrors, when I may remain at home in pursuit only of inconveniences.

My misfortunes, sir, is to possess the whole and sole property, personal and mental, of a WIFE, who is, without all exception (except what is to follow) one of the best of human beings. That she is so, I should be disposed to allow voluntarily, even if I were not obliged to assent to it, as attested and sworn by every one who knows her, that is, who occa-

sionally pays us a visit, beholds her good deeds and profits by them. To contradict people, who must be the best judges, because they think so, and in a matter, too, which must be very gratifying to the feelings of a husband, would be at once very unpolite and very unwise. But writing as I am now, to answer the purposes of a Committee of Public Safety, I may, perhaps, take greater freedoms than domestic good manners will allow: and in my fictitious character, advance some things, which, in *propria persona*, I find it quite as prudent to let pass without animadversion.

Sir, this angel of a woman---that is a very fine epithet from a man who has been married above twenty years---would deserve more praises than you have leisure or patience to read, had she not hit, in early life, upon a *system of happiness*, which she is never likely to complete, which perhaps never was completed, and which, if it could be brought to a termination, would probably make her very unhappy. You are to know, that she resolves all happiness into two passions, hope and fear, and a mind continually vibrating between these, is in her opinion, a mind of perfect felicity. Now, I know that some people would call this *restlessness*, and an eminent physician, of my acquaintance, has assured me, that it is nothing but the *fidgets*, a disorder peculiar, as he says, to females, especially to those who are called your *mighty good kind* of women; but this, with submission to his medical skill, must I think

I think, be a mistake ; for I have perceived symptoms of the *fidgets* in women, who could not, in any sense of the word, be termed mighty good, or mighty evil. A learned lady assured me, that my wife's disorder was *irritability of locomotion*.

Be this as it may, for doctors will differ, my wife pursues her system with unabated assiduity, continually finding out schemes to exercise her mind in hope and fear, to raise expectation, prove ingenuity, gratify curiosity, and, as Bayes says, in the *Rehearsal*, "to elevate and surprise." You may, therefore, suppose, that in order to carry on this plan of happiness, somewhat of a romantic turn is necessary. You are not mistaken. She possesses very much of that turn, but is much better pleased with the romances of real life, than with those of fiction, and would much rather summons a hackney-coachman, than call up hobgoblins in an old castle. And it is very remarkable, that not a day passes without her meeting, by the *meereft accident in the world*, with the strangest persons, the most unlooked-for incidents or the oddest speeches and expressions, that ever occurred in the history of the world.--N. B. I never found a person of an *adventurous* turn of mind, who did not meet with *adventures* ; and I don't know, but that, in skilful hands, a journey to Hamstead might be made as surprising, as a voyage round the globe. But this, by the bye.

You will also readily imagine, that my wife is a woman of a very active turn of mind.--Ah !

fir, there it is.--She is of so active a disposition, that rest is unknown at our house. We have always something to hope, or something to fear ; some scheme to execute, some alteration to make, or something to illustrate the desiderated doctrine of perpetual motion. But I must descend to particulars.

Soon after our marriage, it was found out by my wife, that the house we lived in was inconvenient, the stair-case was narrow, the wainscoting was impaired by time, and the floors were damaged. There was much to be done, and much to be undone. Having little of the spirit of contradiction in me, I had no difficulty in admitting, that the hand of the carpenter might relieve us in these respects ; and sent for a couple of trusty fellows, to whom I explained our wants, and only hinted, that I could wish the job finished with expedition ; which they, as is their custom, promised should certainly be the case. But this was neither my wife's wish nor intention. *Finishing* is no part of her system, and the word *complete* is, I believe, not in her vocabulary. She had sketched out improvements of a higher kind, and probably dreading the shallowness of my capacity to understand the whole, chose to develop the plan in such fragments as might suit my comprehension. Little, however, as I knew of her intentions, I soon discovered, that her sole pleasure was in *busfle*, and that she had cut out this work, neither for the benefit of the house, nor of the workmen, but



but purely to divert her mind, and keep her invention in motion. Within a month, our house was nearly quite demolished, a small reserve only having been made for the present accommodation, the site of which, to prevent interruption from visitors, was the garret, and the only access to it, was by means of ladders; the last of which, it was my business to pull up after me, with the care and circumspection of Robinson Crusoe, when he dreaded a visit from the savages.

To interpose now, I saw was in vain, for I did not wish to demolish all my comforts together, and therefore let the lady direct every thing in her own taste, hoping, that the whole would soon be completed, and that there could not be a pretence for farther alterations: for some years at least. But in this we were mutually disappointed. I was disappointed because my wife was not satisfied and she was disappointed, because every thing having been done according to her own plan, & nothing done as she liked, she had no person to blame but herself---and that is a trouble, which my wife never takes, even when most at leisure from other avocations.

We had not been seated in our improved mansion many months, when my wife discovered, that although no fault could reasonably be found with the house itself (except, as aforesaid, that she disliked her own improvements) there was

a misfortune attending it, which baffled even *her* contriving genius. This was simply its being placed just where it was, and not about a mile off, in a genteeler part of the town. Of this I had repeated hints, and knowing the intimate connexion between a hint and requisition, I assented with good grace; in consequence of which, our present house was taken. Its principle recommendations, I tho't had been its situation, but that was not the only one. It had, besides, every possible negative requisite for a lady of my wife's disposition. It had not been tenanted for years, and therefore wanted many repairs. *We* had never lived in it at all, and therefore it wanted as many improvements as her utmost stretch of fancy could reach, which, to her presented a glorious prospect. Carpenters, brick layers, painters, glaziers, and cabinet-makers, went to work; and as these gentlemen are not very expeditious, even though they assist each other wonderfully, my wife was the happiest creature in the universe, for near five months ---and I can't say but that I enjoyed a comparative state of happiness during this time, and that for two reasons: first, I was not upon the spot, nor within hearing; and, secondly, madam insisted, that I should not enter the doors of it until all was finished, that I might be surprised and astonished at the skill and taste displayed by her.

(To be continued.)

SUBSTITUTE

## SUBSTITUTE FOR WINE.

*To the Editor of the London Monthly Magazine.*

S I R,

**A**S those of your readers who are neither *Alarmists* nor *Life-and-fortune-men* may, probably, be desirous of bearing as few of the additional burthens of the state as they can, without materially infringing their comforts, I shall beg leave, by your means, to suggest a substitute for the usual glass after meals, which is now become too expensive an object for thoughtless indulgence. Wine, we are told was formerly an article only to be had from the apothecaries' shops: if this should be the case again, I believe health and morals would be material gainers; and our unparalleled minister might, eventually, be the author of more good to the nation, than his warmest admirers now probably expect from him. But what I have to say does not concern the Bacchanalian toppers, who drink to drown care or vexation: it is the true dietetic use of wine that I mean to consider, as become habitual, and perhaps necessary, to sober people. The real advantage arising from strong liquors, I take to proceed from two properties only: that of checking too great a fermentation in food, and that of stimulating the stomach to due action in the digestive process. As to the first, I believe a proper choice and mixture of animal and vegetable aliment would sufficiently obviate the danger of excess in fermentation; were water the on-

ly drink. Malt-liquor rather promotes it; but the most hurtful practice in this respect is the devouring of crude fruit after a hearty meal, by way of desert. This it is which usually causes a craving for wine, glass after glass, to quiet the conflicting elements of the food, and rouse the stomach to act upon its contents. But in this view, no part of the wine is useful but its *spirit*; all the acidity and harshness that it may possess only aggravates the evil; and of all kinds, I believe the heterogeneous mixture, usually sold under the name of red port, is the very worst to wash down food with, clarit, perhaps, excepted. My succedaneum, therefore, both for health and cheapness, has been brandy, which I used in the following manner: after dinner, I pour *one table spoonful* of brandy into a wine-glass, and then fill it up with *cold water*. This I drink, merely by way of a stomachic, and I find it answer perfectly. Others, accustomed to drink more wine than I have done, and who, perhaps, still eat a little fruit after dinner (which I do not) might require two such glasses; nor could they, at first well dispense with a repetition at night. By taking brandy this way, no danger is incurred of getting a soaking tippling habit, which is the great evil of drinking spirits and water. In my mode, it is a medicine, not an indulgence;



dulgence ; and I strictly guard against any increase of quantity. Thus, sir, I own I am become a worse customer to Mr. Pitt than formerly ; but, feeling no great compunction of mind on that account, and much benefit to my health and pocket, I can-

not but recommend the method to others, who think as I do.

Your constant reader,  
May 10. N. N.

N. B. Rum, or best British spirits, I suppose, would do just as well as brandy.

## THE POWER OF ORATORY.

### *Humourous Instance of its Effects.*

CÆSAR, and many generals before and after him, inspired faint-hearted followers with courage ; but the following is the only instance I have ever met with of a commander who had rhetoric enough to talk brave fellows into cowardice.

The hero of our story (which is sincerely a true one) was at his studies in one of the universities, when the last rebellion broke out in Scotland (1745) and alarmed the care of government. He was young and designed for a pillar of the kirk. Grace and sanctity had therefore been more in his thoughts than arms and slaughter ; but some of his friends, who claimed a power in raising and disposing the militia, took a fancy to dignify the young kirkman with the command of a company, and gave him orders to march them to a rendezvous that was appointed a few days after.

The new captain (as he told the story himself, with a great deal of frankness) thought safety more his business than valor ; yet was ashamed to appear fearful, when every body round

him looked as big as Bajazet. He resolved, therefore, to have resource to his oratory, and try, if it was possible, under pretence of encouraging his men, to frighten them into desertion. In pursuance of this hope, he drew them, on the morning of the march, into a ring, at the foot of a little mount ; and placing himself on the top of it, addressed them in the following oration ; which he gave me in his own hand writing :

*Friends ! Brethren ! Countrymen !*

“ We are marching against enemies, who are marching against God : for they fight against our king and our king protects our kirk, and our kirk is the care of God. So our enemies are God’s enemies, and our cause must prevail against them.

“ As an officer of command and a leader, who knows no fear, it is my duty to speak to you in a style that may enflame your courage.---But as I am a christian as well as a soldier, a man of humanity as well as mettle, I dare not conceal from you that there is a danger, which I myself

myself am afraid of : I, who, to speak in the world's notion of fear, am so resolved that I can fear nothing. I mean, my fellow-soldiers, the danger which some of your dear souls may be in, of rushing headlong upon damnation.

"In all probability, there will be an immediate engagement : I am confident we shall (I mean all who survive the battle) succeed in the event. But, alas ! which of us knows whose lot it will be to fall in the field of slaughter ? and, since there is odds against your lives, are ye prepared for the approaching death ? It is indeed an unreasonable, but ah, my friends ! it is a necessary question. Are ye prepared, I say, to die ? Have you assurance of salvation ?

"I acknowledge, that your piety, your loyalty, and your bravery, may entitle you to hopes of glory ; but if you want the inward token, the assurance, the testimony ! If you are not positive, my friends, you are doubters ; and he who doubteth (says the holy writ) is damned---Mark that, brethren ! He who doubteth, is damned !

"Ah ! weigh the important question, before I lead you a step farther. Knock at your bosoms :

ask your consciences, if you are doubters ? And if you find ye are upright and steadfast, if ye have clear and unquestionable evidence, if your lives have been pure, and your bodies undefiled, your credentials for heaven are good, and ye may follow me undauntedly : for

*Nil desperandum est Teucro  
duce, et auspice Tencro.* That is (being interpreted) "King George, for ever. Amen."

"But if you doubt, if ye faint, if your inward man is not strong, I desire none of your fruitless aid---I shall be more triumphant without you. Neither would I have your blood upon my head ; since if you die, you will be damned. But my christian concern for your souls, hath made me forget that ye are soldiers. I come down to put myself before you, and let you see by my example, in the horrid bloodiness of this day, what an assurance there is in the accepted, when they fight against the doubtful. I leave the rest to your conscience. They who doubt not will follow me."

This oration had the desired effect, the whole of his men deserted him.

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### *CONTRAST BETWEEN THE AFRICAN AND CHRISTIAN SOLDIER.*

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**I**N the most flourishing period of the reign of Lewis XIV, two negro youths, the sons of a prince, being brought to the Court of France, the king ap-

pointed a Jesuit to instruct them in letters, and in the Christian religion, and gave each of them a commission in his guards. The eldest who was remarkable for his



his candour and ingenuity, made great improvements, more particularly in the doctrine of religion. A brutal officer, upon some dispute, insulted him with a blow. The gallant youth never so much as offered to resent it. A person who was his friend, took an opportunity to talk with him that evening alone upon his behaviour, which he told him was too tame, especially in a soldier. Is there said the young African, one revelation for soldiers, and another for merchants and gownsmen? The good father to whom I owe all my knowledge, has earnestly inculcated forgiveness of injuries to me; assuring me that a Christian was by no means to retaliate abuses of any kind.

The good father replied his friend, may fit you for a monastery by his lessons, but never for a soldier and the rules of a court. In a word, continued he, if you do not call the Colonel to an account, you will be branded with the infamy of cowardice, and have your commission taken from

you. I would fain, answered the young man, act consistently in every thing; but since you press me with that regard to my honor which you have always shewn, I will wipe off so foul a stain, though I must own I gloried in it before.

Immediately upon this, he desired his friend to go from him, and appoint the aggressor to meet him early in the morning. Accordingly they met, and fought: and the brave youth disarmed his adversary, and forced him to ask his pardon publicly. This done, the next day he threw up his commission, and desired the king's leave to return to his father. At parting, he embraced his brother and his friend with tears in his eyes, saying, "He did not imagine that the Christians were such unaccountable people; and that he could not apprehend their faith was of any use to them, if it did not influence the practiser. In my country we think it no dishonour to act according to the principles of our religion."

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### ANECDOTE OF TWO CORDELIERS.

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**T**WO cordeliers, arriving late one evening at a village, were obliged to lodge at a butcher's, and the chamber where they lay was only separated by a few boards from that where the butcher and his wife slept. Curiosity led the cordeliers to harken to what the man and woman were talking about. The husband began to talk about his domestic concerns, and said, "I

must get up my dear, to-morrow betimes, and give a look at our cordeliers; one of them is in pretty good order, but we will kill both and salt them down, which will turn well to our account." Although the butcher spoke only of his pigs, which he joculately called cordeliers, the poor friars were so horribly frightened, that they were ready to expire with fear, and resolved

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to save themselves by jumping out of the window. The thinnest of the two fell lightly on the ground, and ran as far as the town without waiting for his companion: the other followed his example; but being very fat, fell so heavily that he broke his leg, and with much difficulty crawled to a little shed which he found not far off, and which proved to be precisely the place where the pigs (his brother cordeliers) usually lay. Early the next morning the butcher got ready his knife, and went straight to the shed:—"Come, come, my cordeliers," said he, "come

out, come out, for to-day I am resolved to eat some of your puddings." The cordelier cried out for mercy, and the butcher who concluded that St. Francois had metamorphosed one of his pigs into a friar, on purpose to punish him for having sported with the name of a religious order of men, was overcome with fear; but the matter being soon explained, the good fathers, in gratitude for their hospitable reception, and fortunate release from their fears, very peaceably parted with their host, and very kindly comforted him with their benediction.

### ANECDOTES OF PERSONS CONCERNED WITH THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

#### LA FAYETTE.

**A**MONG those popular characters who principally distinguished themselves as the first promoters and supporters of the French revolution, there is hardly one who has occasioned more contradictory opinions than General LA FAYETTE, even among the friends of freedom. How far those different sentiments have been reconciled in his own country; and his conduct justified by subsequent events, may be inferred from his having now recovered his former popularity with the French people; from his having excited among all descriptions of his countrymen the strongest sympathy for his misfortune; and his reckoning at present no e-

ther enemies than the partisans of despotism and anarchy. Were not the unparrelled treatment he has experienced from the despots themselves a sufficient argument in his favour, the following circumstances of his political life would sufficiently evince what opinion should be entertained of his principles and character.

LA FAYETTE was nineteen years old when he determined to take an active part in the American struggle for liberty, and to go to America. No power had yet dared openly espouse their cause, although they rejoiced at the revolt of the American colonies, and the prospect it opened of their future separation from  
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the mother-country ; yet the French rulers were rather backward in giving support to their claims, and still more to the principles on which they were founded ; they consequently hesitated and withheld their assistance. Mortified to observe that their wavering policy might be suspected, and themselves unwillingly engaged in the contest through the youthful ardour of La Fayette, they sent messengers to those ports where he was the most likely to embark, with orders to stop him ; but he having escaped their researches, they secretly advised the congress not to employ him ; formally declaring, at the same time, to the English court, that they had no hand whatever in his proceeding, and that they left him entirely to his fate. La Fayette having secretly concerted his measures with the American agents in France, was on the point of his departure, when they received fresh advices from America, that the affairs of the revolted colonies were in the most deplorable situation. On their representation that they thought it a duty incumbent on them to dissuade him from his attempt in so critical a moment, as he could not fail to involve himself in their ruin : "*It is so much the more incumbent on me,*" answered he, "*to hasten my departure.*" It is well known how much this step of his contributed to retrieve the American affairs ; what support his military and political services gave to their revolution, what electrical influence his resolution and his successes had up-

on public opinion in France, which determined at last the court of Versailles to grant their alliance and protection to the congress. To that single circumstance, perhaps, we might trace the first origin of the French revolution, and ascribe its natural and necessary consequences on the political and economical system of Europe.

It is unnecessary here to enlarge upon his pecuniary sacrifices in the American cause ; upon his having returned to France for the express purpose of procuring them succours in ships, men, money, military stores, &c. upon his having refused all command, till his blood, shed on the field of battle, and his military successes, had entitled him to it. But it would be unjust to pass over a characteristic anecdote, which is a sufficient answer to those who accuse him of an inordinate ambition : during the winter of 1777 to 1778, a cabal was formed in the Congress against the commander in chief ; they wished to take from him his young friend, whose popularity was daily encreasing. The conqueror of Burgoyne. Gates, lately made war minister, proposed to La Fayette, in the name of the Congress, and with circumstances likely to be disagreeable to Washington, the chief commander of the northern army, which in rendering him, at twenty years of age, independent of that general, opened also to him the prospect of a glorious expedition. But La Fayette, faithful to friendship, and aware of the fa-

tal consequences of such intrigues, would accept the command only with the agreement, and on condition of being under the orders, of Washington.

The notice of a few circumstances will excuse him from the hacknied reproach of personal ambition. When on the eve of an expedition, from which he might have expected a considerable share of glory, he consented to undertake a journey to Boston, in order to keep up a good understanding between the American army and the squadron of the Count d'Estaing, which did not prevent his returning in time to share in the merit of the retreat, rendered necessary by the departure of the French Squadron and in the eulogium of General Sullivan on that account. In the campaign, of 1781, La Fayette distinguished himself in as eminent a degree as he had done in the preceding campaign, by his activity and his skill in manœuvring. He was sent to Virginia, *with the recommendation of leaving those states only when reduced to the extremities.* Lord Cornwallis, the most skillful of the English generals, considering in his superior numbers, had informed the British cabinet, *that the boy could not escape him:* but after a very active campaign, of more than six months, the English found themselves driven to a position on the sea coast, the most favourable for a co-operation agreed upon with the Admiral Count de Grasse. The American army, from an inexpugnable station, prevented the enemy, from extricating them-

selves: soon after the French admiral arrived in Chesapeak Bay, and the division of the Antilles formed their junction with La Fayette, to serve under his orders. The Marechal de camp, St. Simon, pressed his young general to storm the entrenchments of York Town, which were not yet finished; the admiral joined his solicitations to those of the commander of the land forces, offering new reinforcements from his fleet; and both represented how much glory it would reflect on him, were the affair concluded before the arrival of Washington, who, with the generals Rochambeau and Lincoln, both his elders, was marching from the North River, at the head of French and American troops: but it being always the leading principle of La Fayette, to spare as much as possible the blood of his soldiers, and seeing the capture of Cornwallis inevitable, he constantly answered, that he would not run the hazard of a bloody engagement, whilst they were certain, after the union of the other troops, of gaining the proposed end with a comparatively trifling loss.

Two or three instances may be cited, to prove that the ambition of promoting the sacred cause of freedom, together with improvement and happiness of his country, was the only one by which he ever was actuated. Although distinguished by what was accounted an illustrious birth, although possessed of a large fortune and considerable family interest at court, and intitled by his services in America to any preferments,



preferments, he is known to have constantly refused those places, so much sought for under the old government; alledging that he only wished for the opportunity of being useful to his country, and principally of promoting a reform in its economical and political system. When placed at the head of the Parisian national guards, and possessing considerable influence in the revolutionary government, he, more than any other, pressed for the organization of the new constitution, which was to supercede the revolutionary authorities. Being informed that the deputies of the confederated national guards of France, then at Paris, designed to invest him with the title of their generalissimo, he mounted the tribune to propose that the National Assembly should decree it unconstitutional to command the national guards of more than

one district: and when fifteen thousand of those confederated national guards surrounded him, rending the air with their acclamations, in a speech which he then delivered, he made use of these words: "Notwithstanding my gratitude to you for your affection, I cannot refrain from an emotion of terror: reserve that enthusiasm for the cause of liberty and that unbounded attachment only for the laws." As soon as the constitution was finished, he resigned the immense power with which he had been entrusted; retired to his estate three hundred and sixty miles from the capital, resisting all solicitations; and could not be prevailed on to leave his retirement, until the breaking out of the war made it his duty to accept of the command which had been conferred on him by the unanimous voice of the nation.

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### SELECTED POETRY.

#### THE WRONGS OF PENURY.

*Occasioned by a Passage in COOPER'S Reply to BURKE'S Invective:*

*Is he not just, that all this doth behold  
From highest heaven, and bears an equal eye?*

SPENCER.

**O**PPRESSION! tyrant man's of feeble race,  
'Tis thine to bid the fury passions rage;  
From life's gay morn to snatch the blooming grace,  
Or mingle anguish in the cup of age.

Lo! at thy call, the fiends of lawless pow'r  
Surprise the peasants unprotected shed;  
Intrude on weary'd toils reposing hour,  
And seek in night to hide the ruthless deed.

Nor wakes the deed a patriot's ardent tongue,  
 Nor suits the lowly theme a senate's cares;  
 Neglected Penury, o'er thy cruel wrongs  
 Chatham was silent, and ev'n Fox forbears.

Yet Justice sleeps not o'er the guilty scene,  
 Yet hears Compassion the lorn sufferer's cry;  
 While taught by Cooper's philanthropic pen,  
 The Muse gives language to the victim's sigh.

How oft I listen'd to the grateful theme,  
 That 'tis a Briton's birth right to be free;  
 How oft, deluded by a specious dream,  
 I hail'd the land of law and liberty.

In vain—the captive's abject doom to prove,  
 Is mine; and mine, alas! the felon's lot,  
 Forc'd from the scenes, where virtue deign'd to rove,  
 And, with contentment, share a peasant's cot.

For ever fled, ye dear connubial joys,  
 That toilsome life's best solace could afford;  
 Nor she, whose merit was my early choice,  
 Again shall greet me to our frugal board.

While want forbids the dreary hearth to burn,  
 Her woes no fond expectance can beguile;  
 No more she listens for my wish'd return,  
 To soothe fatigue with love's unpurchas'd smile.

No more my prattling infants shall repair  
 Around their fire—his daily labor done?  
 For now, defrauded of a father's care,  
 Some niggard hand may deal the legal boon;

Some practis'd spoiler of a virgin's fame,  
 Her youth should beauty's fatal charms adorn,  
 May lure a friendless maid to gilded shame;  
 Then, loathing, cast her on the public scorn.

Ah! there to wander, Lust's un pity'd slave—  
 The reveller's sport—the prey of dire disease;  
 Or hide from man, beneath the kinder grave,  
 A form that nature vainly taught to please.

But Power's rude minions mock my boding care;  
 They drag new victims to ambitious shrine;  
 Ev'n now they urge me to the impious war,  
 Against a brother man—no foe of mine!



Yet Pen'ry, to his throne thy cause shall rise  
Who looks on mortals with an equal eye ;  
Who marks Oppression, thro' her artful guise,  
And hears the captive's unregarded sigh.

Yet may the angel, Peace, with gentle hand,  
The woes of wrong'd Humanity assuage ;  
The shrine of Freedom raise in every land,  
And bring to earth another golden age.

When nor ambition's flame, nor lust of wealth,  
Shall blast the young desire to serve and please ;  
When temp'rate labour gives the pulse of health,  
Nor time consumes, nor wastes luxurious ease ;

When man for man the kindred passion owns,  
While justice pays what Charity bestow'd ;  
And Nature's bounty visits all her sons,  
Free, as from Heave'n the gen'rous blessing flow'd

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SONNET.

CHEERLESS my road, and long and lone the way,  
As on I wander'd thro' the vale of life,  
Not undisturb'd by cares, nor for the strife  
Of jarring crowds well meet ; and when the ray  
Of Love's mild torch beam'd forth its radiance pure,  
Its radiance pure beam'd only to disclose  
A dark drear scene, a gathering cloud of woes,  
Which though philosophy might teach t' endure,  
She knew not to avoid. O lov'd ! O fair !  
Thy gentle influence cheer'd the gloomy shade ;  
Ev'n as the angel, Hope, then cam'ft to aid,  
And Love his clear torch wav'd amid the air,  
Cheering, as the fearful sailor's sight,  
Streams the fair beacon's blaze amid the stormy night.

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DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

*Savannah, July 19.*

The brig *Magdaleny Eliza*,  
Capt. Phenix arrived here on  
Tuesday last in 13 days from St.  
Thomas's. About nine days  
ago, near this coast, Capt. Phenix  
spoke the British frigate  
*Greyhound*, on a cruise from St.

*Domingo*, with two 74 gun ships  
in company. The Captain of  
the *Greyhound* said he had lost  
several of his officers and a number  
of his men by sickness, and  
that the remainder (about one  
hundred in number) were very  
sickly.

*New-York,*

*New-York, August 4.*  
**GENEROUS.**

Monsieur Bergeret, captain of La Virginie frigate, which was captured by sir Edward Pellew, had been allowed by the British government to go to France to negotiate an exchange between himself and sir Sydney Smith; but being unable to succeed, he returned to England. He received a letter soon after from Mr. Dundas, which stated, that as the object of his journey to France was attained by the fortunate escape of Sir Sydney, his majesty in consequence of the trouble he had been put to, and as a mark of the satisfaction which his conduct afforded, restored to him his liberty, and permitted him to return to his country without any restriction whatever.

A letter from Warrenton, (N. C.) dated July 1, says:---  
 "The rains that have fallen in this last fortnight, exceed in quantity and severity any that the oldest person living remembers---There are very few bridges left in this part of the country."

On Saturday evening a daring attempt was made to rob the house of Mr. Mezzerol, at Bushwick, about 3 miles up the East-river, by nine armed villains, disguised with blackened faces. &c. but luckily, in attempting to

secure young Mr. Mezzerol, he extricated himself with a few wounds. The robbers, expecting the consequences of an immediate alarm, only tried to open two trunks, (but which they did not stay to effect) flew to their boats, which was but a few rods off, and entirely escaped without plunder.

Last week as some men were employed in hoisting some barrels of flour into a loft, one from the third story fell and crushed a cartman on the ground floor. This accident should teach people to be cautious.

*Boston, August 2.*

A new ship built at Newbury, arrived here on Tuesday; she is called the Governor Sumner, and is pierced for 16 guns.

*Poughkeepsie, August 14.*

DIED, at Philadelphia, on the 31st of July, JOHN SWANWICK, Esq. member of Congress for that city.

—MARRIED—

On Saturday evening, 28th ult. by the Rev. Mr. Brower, Mr. Michael Henderhute, to Miss Deborah Robinson, both of this place.

—On Saturday evening 4th inst. by the Rev. Mr. Brower, Mr. Aia Rutzer, to Miss Maria Cropsey, both of this town.

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